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STATINTL

Convicted Spies Swapped

12 Minutes to Freedom

CPYRGHT

BERLIN, April 22 (UPI)—Britain today released Soviet spy Gordon Lonsdale to the Russians in exchange for the return of British businessman Greville Wynne, convicted in Moscow of espionage.

The British Foreign Office announced the exchange several hours after witnesses had reported it took place at dawn at a secret meeting of British and Soviet officials on the Berlin border.

IN POOR HEALTH

The Foreign Office said Mr. Wynne was being flown to London. Initiative for the swap came from the Soviets, a spokesman said, and Britain agreed because of Mr. Wynne's poor health.

Mr. Wynne, 45, has served 11 months of an eight-year sentence for espionage. Lonsdale, 40, whose real name is Konon Trofimovich Molody, began a 25-year sentence in 1961 after his conviction as head of a spy ring that delivered British navy underwater weapons secrets to Moscow.

The exchange paralleled that of Soviet master spy Col. Rudolf Abel for American U2 pilot Francis Gray Powers. Abel was turned over to the Russians and Powers to the Americans at another Berlin border point.

ONLY 12 MINUTES

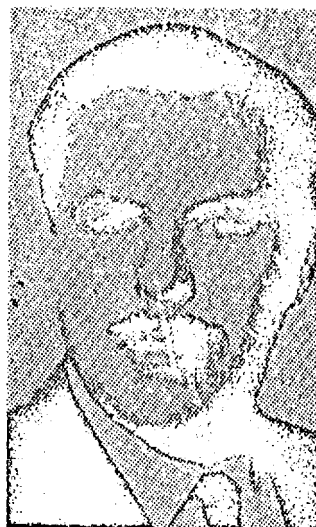
It took only 12 minutes today to wipe out prison sentences totaling 29 years. British officials arrived at the lonely Heerstrasse Checkpoint with Lonsdale in a car. He had been flown secretly from England to Berlin by the Royal Air Force.

Then the Russians arrived from East German territory. The two autos halted about 20 yards from each other. One of three British security officers with Lonsdale left the car and walked into East German territory, chatted briefly with a Russian, and returned.

The Soviet car drove in zig-



GORDON LONSDALE



GREVILLE WYNNE

zags thru the concrete barriers put at the checkpoint to stop refugee escapes. Mr. Wynne, escorted by two Russians, got out.

A MOMENT'S LOOK

A British security man stood on either side of Lonsdale as he got out. Mr. Wynne and Lonsdale faced each other for a moment, and then both turned, got in the cars with their own security men, and were driven away.